



Department of Environmental Protection

McGilpin Road in Sturbridge Project Update for the Week of June 26, 2017

Residential Sampling

MassDEP completed residential sampling on McGilpin Road (these have all been previously sampled) this week. A total of 43 homes were sampled this month. This is the third round of sampling at these residences by MassDEP. The first two sampling events were previously conducted between January and May of this year. The Agency expects to receive the results of all sampling in early July. Homeowners will be notified of the sampling results and will be provided with a copy of the laboratory reports as soon as DEP has reviewed the data. Additionally, the sampling results will be posted to the MassDEP website.

Direct Well Sampling

MassDEP completed direct well sampling at selected home on McGilpin Road. This sampling is in addition to in-home sampling described and includes sampling the raw water (directly in the well) of those homes. We expect to receive the results of the direct well sampling by early July and will be reviewing the data to evaluate for next steps. Additionally, homeowners will be notified of the results and will be provided copies of the laboratory reports as soon as DEP has reviewed the data. On Friday, DEP also consulted with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a sampling protocol that may provide additional information about the bedrock aquifer groundwater and source of lead. The USGS has offered to review the data and meet with DEP in late July to discuss additional analyses that may prove useful in differentiating lead sources.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

This week, MassDEP began developing a Request for Contractor Assistance to move forward on identification of properties that are conducive to conducting surface geophysical surveys and for the installation of monitoring wells at locations between the Southbridge landfill and McGilpin Road, including property owned by Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park (SRDP). The goal is to identify locations where monitoring wells will yield the greatest results. Pending contractor selection, we remain on schedule to begin subsurface investigation in these areas in late July.

Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

DEP received surface water and sediment sampling results for several locations including wetlands in and around the Southbridge Landfill and McKinstry Brook. DEP will be reviewing and analyzing the results to determine if additional surface water and sediment sampling is warranted. We expect to make the results available on our website shortly.

Review of other potential sources

No additional update. MassDEP has identified other properties that may warrant additional investigation. Specifically, two parcels on McGilpin Road have been described as old junkyards or as having buried debris. To date, MassDEP has conducted surficial investigations, including a magnetometer survey and ground penetrating radar survey at one property. MassDEP will continue to evaluate if further investigation of these parcels is needed, as additional information is collected and reviewed.